

MARYLAND TRAUMA PHYSICIAN SERVICES FUND

Physician Information Bulletin #7

NEWS & NOTES	MHCC Policy Guidance
MHCC Policy Guidance	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Payment for Anesthesia Services</h3> <p>◆ Anesthesia Services reported on the <i>Maryland Trauma Fund Semi-Annual Uncompensated Care Application</i> must be coded using an American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) code and the appropriate AA or QK modifier by minutes. ASA codes are five-digit procedure codes ranging from 00100 - 01999. A listing of approved ASA codes is available at the MHCC Web site, www.mhcc.state.md.us/trauma_fund/_trauma.htm. Anesthesia services must be submitted with the ASA codes and the associated unit of service in minutes. If an anesthesia procedure requires 30 minutes of the anesthesiologist's time, then the unit of service would be reported as 30 units.</p> <p>A limited number of Evaluation & Management (E/M) CPT codes are available for anesthesia services. These codes range from 99217 – 99357. Evaluation & Management codes are reported with number of visits and not in minutes of time. Please refer to the American Medical Association's <i>Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) 2004</i> for further guidelines on the reporting of E/M codes to the Fund.</p> <p>Anesthesia Services reimbursed through the Fund are limited to those performed by an anesthesiologist. Certified registered nurse anesthetists are not eligible to participate in the Fund.</p> <p>◆◆◆</p> <p>EXAMPLE: Dr. Smith is an anesthesiologist who provided trauma care to Mr. Peters who is uninsured. Dr. Smith's billing office followed the established collection procedures of two billing cycles and a 30-day collections effort. The billing office is completing a <i>Maryland Trauma Fund Semi-Annual Uncompensated Care Application</i> and is billing using ASA codes and CPT codes.</p> <p>QUESTION: What does Dr. Smith need to do in order to receive Fund reimbursement for the anesthesia service he provided to Mr. Peters in the trauma center operating room for an intracranial procedure to repair a skull fracture?</p> <p>ANSWER: The billing office should complete the application for anesthesia services provided during Mr. Peters' intracranial surgical procedure for a skull fracture using ASA code 00215 by minutes with the appropriate AA or QK modifier.</p>